

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated January 31, 2006. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-15, 17-27, 29-31, 33-38, 40-45, 47-52, and 54-67 are in the case.

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 11-12, 14, 17, 24-27, 29, 31, 33, 35-38, 40, 42-45, 47, and 51-52 have been amended to better claim the invention.

Claims 54-67 have been added to better claim the invention.

Claims 16, 28, 32, 39, 46, and 53 have been canceled without prejudice.

At paragraph 1 of the Office Action, claims 33, 36, and 47 were objected to because of informalities. Claims 33, 36, and 47 have been amended, and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

At paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. Independent claims 1, 8, 11, 12, 14, 17, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31, 38, 45, and 52 have been amended, and are believed to be in condition for allowance. In particular, Application has added language regarding “determining the **filtered** virtual time debt determined based on an **average** difference between a time packets are expected to arrive and a time the packets actually arrive” (text adapted from representative claim 1). Corresponding dependent claims 2-3, 5-7, 9-10, 13, 15, 18-23, 25, 30, 33-37, 40-44, and 47-51 are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

At paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Independent claim 1 has been amended, and is believed to be in condition for allowance. Corresponding dependent claims 2-3 and 5-7 are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

At paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 17-53 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 17, 24-27, 29, 31, 33, 35-38, 40, 42-45, 47, and 51-52 have been amended, and are believed to be in condition for allowance. Remaining dependent claims 18-23, 30, 34, 41, and 48-50 are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

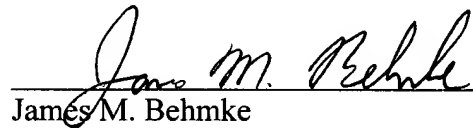
All independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance.

All dependent claims are believed to be dependent from allowable independent claims, and therefore in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account
No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James M. Behmke", written over a horizontal line.

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